



**U.S. ARMY CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY**



# **CMH Archives Branch**

## **Army Records Preservation**

### **and**

## **Collecting the Records of**

# **Overseas Contingency Operations**

Frank Shirer, Branch Chief  
Frank.Shirer@us.army.mil





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1. Post -1985 Army Records Management History
2. How You Can Help Preserve the Army's History
3. MHDs – The Army's First Line Data Collectors
4. What and Whose Records Have Been Collected
5. Records Accessibility Issues





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## ISSUES

### Demise of Army Records Management System

**1985:** The Adjutant General's office disbanded and records management transferred to the Signal Corps.

**1990:** Operation Desert Storm: A Records Disaster.

No records were collected or preserved by the Army as in past wars. Some records collected by deployed MHDs.





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**1993-94:** Gulf War Syndrome: Soldiers began getting sick and there were no records to validate their claims.

**1995:** Gulf War Declassification Project. CMH was ordered search for and collect surviving records from Desert Storm.

**1997:** Records Management and Declassification Agency Created.





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**2002:** SecDef and SecArmy designated OCO records as permanent records and ordered them be preserved and properly retired.

**2006:** CMH & RMDA discovered that only 3% of the Army's units had retired their electronic records since 2001. None were from contingency operations.

**2007:** The Center of Military History was again given the mission to find and collect records of Overseas Contingency Operations created since 2001.





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## What does CMH and RMDA have?



CMH has 20 TB of raw electronic data from

- \* MHDs
- \* Data-mining contract
- \* LTC Smith's Active/Guard/Reserve collection project

9 TB has been transferred to RMDA

200+ linear feet of paper documents

Other history offices are also collecting





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**How can you help preserve  
your organization's records?**





## Only Commanders Can Fix This:

The Commander is responsible for insuring that his G/S-6 and G/S-1 properly preserve and retire any records that DOCUMENT OPERATIONS.

All records created during wartime and contingency operations are considered permanent records per Secretary of Defense and Secretary of the Army messages sent out after 9-11.







## INFORM YOUR COMMANDER

Preservation of the Army's official permanent records is a commander's mission.

- 1) To take care of his troops.
- 2) For writing the Army's history.
- 3) To protect the Army against unfounded claims, lawsuits, and allegations.





## TAKING CARE OF YOUR TROOPS

- a) The records are needed by the Joint Services Records Research Center to validate PTSD and all other medical claims of active duty Soldiers and veterans.
- b) Soldiers are currently being denied benefits or compensation because of a lack of backup documentation. This makes the importance of recordkeeping personal to the Soldier/veteran.





## Records Management Regulations

- AR 25-400-2, Army Records Information Management System (ARIMS). All units should be maintaining and submitting its records in accordance with it.
- DA Pam 25-403, Guide to Recordkeeping in the Army, Chapter 12
- Everything your commander needs to know is laid out in the “Commander’s Handbook.”





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How has CMH collected the OCO records it currently has?

What has CMH collected during the past 7 years?





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## RECORDS GENERATION (MHDs)



**Deployed Since 9/11 = 24/25 MHDs (96%)**  
(\* indicates more than one deployment: NE, OEF, OIF)





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OIF 1	OIF 2	OIF 04-06	OIF 05-07	OIF 06-08	OIF 07-09	OIF 08-10	OIF 09-11
30 <sup>th</sup> MHD 35 <sup>th</sup> MHD 48 <sup>th</sup> MHD 50 <sup>th</sup> MHD 51 <sup>th</sup> MHD 102d MHD 126 <sup>th</sup> MHD** 135 <sup>th</sup> MHD 141 <sup>st</sup> MHD 305 <sup>th</sup> MHD* 311 <sup>th</sup> MHD* 322d MHD	54 <sup>th</sup> MHD FEB 04 101 <sup>st</sup> MHD FEB 04	45 <sup>th</sup> MHD 2d QTR 05 46 <sup>th</sup> MHD 1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 05 49 <sup>th</sup> MHD 1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 05	35 <sup>th</sup> MHD 4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 05 50 <sup>th</sup> MHD 2d QTR 06 126 <sup>th</sup> MHD 2d QTR 06 51 <sup>st</sup> MHD (-) 3d QTR 06	90 <sup>th</sup> MHD 4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 06 141 <sup>st</sup> MHD 1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 07	52d MHD 4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 07 53d MHD 1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 08 30 <sup>th</sup> MHD 4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 07 130 <sup>th</sup> MHD Navy MHD	44 <sup>th</sup> MHD 101 <sup>st</sup> MHD 317 <sup>th</sup> MHD 54 <sup>th</sup> MHD	47 <sup>th</sup> MHD 45 <sup>th</sup> MHD 311 <sup>th</sup> MHD

\*Mobilized for Noble Eagle, subsequently deployed to OIF.

\*\*Mobilized w/ USASOC and deployed with OEF & OIF Forces

OEF	OEF1	OEF2	OEF 3	OEF 4	OEF 04-06	OEF 05-07 & 06-08	OEF 07-09	OEF 08-10
48 <sup>th</sup> MHD 2d QTR 02 130 <sup>th</sup> MHD 2d QTR 135 <sup>th</sup> MHD 2d QTR 02	49 <sup>th</sup> MHD 3d QTR 02	326 <sup>th</sup> MHD 2d QTR 03	130 <sup>th</sup> MHD 3d QTR 03	317 <sup>th</sup> MHD 2d QTR 04	47 <sup>th</sup> MHD 3d QTR 05	51 <sup>st</sup> MHD Requirement CXL'd, went to OIF	305 <sup>th</sup> MHD	102 <sup>nd</sup> MHD 46 <sup>th</sup> MHD







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## A Typical MHD Data Collection 2006–2007

	.DOC	.XLS	.PPT
Current Avg. Turn in by MHDs	<b>600GB</b>		
Est. % of docs	35%	20%	45%
% Docs of Turn in	210GB	120GB	280GB
Avg. # Doc per GB	64,782	165,791	17,552
Est. size of MHD col	13,604,220	19,894,920	4,739,340
Est. Total Pages	<b>38,238,890 pages</b>		

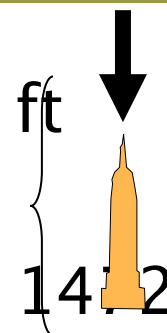
Through its MHDs, CMH receives approximately 4 TB per year in digital documents (+250 million pages)

6 ft 11 in



One MHD collects in a year:

Almost nine times the height of the Empire State Building





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## Military History Detachment (MHD) Collections OEF through the end of 2008

OEF 1	OEF 2/3	OEF 4	OEF 5	OEF 04-06	OEF 05-07	OEF 06-08
<b>10 MTN</b> CFLCC/ CJTF-180 2/10 MTN 3/101 ABN	<b>82 ABN</b> CJTF-180 3/82 ABN 1/82 ABN	<b>10 MTN</b> CJTF-180/76 2/10 MTN 1/10 MTN	<b>25 ID</b> 45 BDE HQ (OK ARNG) DIVARTY, 25 ID 3/25 ID	<b>SETF</b> 76 BDE HQ (IN ARNG) 173 AIB 1/82 ABN	<b>10 MTN</b> 53 BDE HQ (FL ARNG) 3/10 ID 4/10 ID	<b>82 ABN</b> 41 BCT HQ (ORARNG) 218 EIB HQ (SCARNG) 173D AIB 4/82D ABN

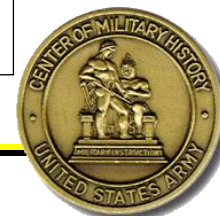
### US Army Center of Military History Assessment

**Green – Adequate Records at CMH to write the Army's history**

**Amber – Some Records, but not enough, to write an adequate Army history**

**Red – No Records on hand**

**Black – Records enroute to CMH or pending evaluation.**







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## Military History Detachment (MHD) Collections OIF through the end of 2008

OIF 1	OIF 2	OIF 04-06	OIF 05-07	OIF 06-08
<b>V CORPS</b> 3 ID, 1/3 ID, 2/3 ID, 3/3 ID 1 AD, 1/1 AD, 2/1 AD, 3/1 AD 4 ID, 1/4 ID, 2/4 ID, 3/4 ID 82 ABN, 1/82 ABN, 2/82 ABN, 3/82 ABN 101 ABN 1/101ABN, 2/101 ABN, 3/101 ABN 2 ACR, 3 ACR, 173 ABN 53 BCT, 76 IB, 41 EIB, 11 AVN, 159 AVN, 75 FA, 513 MI, 118 MP, 18 MP, 800 MP, 22 SIG, 804 MED 3D COSCOM	<b>III CORPS</b> 1 ID, 1 CD, 98 ITD 1/1 ID, 2/1 ID, 3/1 ID 1/1 CD, 2/1 CD, 3/1 CD, 2/25 ID, 2/10 MTN, 3/2 ID 30 HSB, 39 BCT, 81 BCT 197 FAB 420 ENG, 525 MI BDE, 2 MI BDE, 89 MP BDE INSTITUTIONAL TRNG DIV	<b>XVIII ABC</b> 3 ID, 42 ID, 80 ITD, 89 ITD 1/3 ID, 2/3 ID, 3/3 ID, 4/3 ID 3/1 AD, 3 ACR, 11 ACR 2/2 ID, 172 SBCT, 2/10 MTN 29 BCT, 256 BCT, 56 BCT 155 BCT, 116 BCT, 278 RCT	<b>V CORPS</b> 101 ABN, 4 ID, 42 ID 1/101 ABN, 2/101 ABN, 3/101 ABN, 4/101 ABN 1/1 AD, 2/1 AD, 3 ACR 1/4 ID, 2/4 ID, 3/4 ID, 4/4 ID 1/10 MTN, 172 SBCT, 2/28 ID, 48 BCT, 32 BCT, 2/2 ID 3 COSCOM TF 134, 159 AVN, 130 ENG 205 MI, 40 CSG, 22 SIG 2/82 ABN, 18 FAB, 43 MP	<b>III CORPS</b> 3 ID, 1 CD, 25 ID 1/3 ID, 2/3 ID, 3/3 ID, 4/3 ID, 3 CAB 1/1 CD, 2/1 CD, 3/1 CD, 1 CAB 2/82 ABN, 3/82 ABN, 1/10 MTN, 2/10 MTN 2/2 ID, 4/1 ID, 3/2 ID, 3/25 ID, 4/25 ID 2/1 ID, 2 SCR, 1/101 ABN, 2/101 ABN, 3/101 ABN, 1/34 BCT, 130 FAB, 89 MP, 16 MP BDE, 36 AVN BDE, 412 EN BDE





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## **TYPES OF DATA COLLECTED BY MHDS**

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**OPORDS and FRAGOS**

**After Action Reports**

**Witness Statements**

**Commanders Daily SITREPS**

**Tactical Operations Center Reports**

**Multi-National Force Iraq Reports**

**Task Force Situation Reports**

**General Casey's Daily Journal**

**Unit Readiness Assessments**

**Battle Rhythms**

**Division Battle Update Assessments**

**BUBs / CUBs**

**After Action Reviews and Briefings**

**Oral Interviews**

**Award Citations**

**Pre-deployment Files**

**Casualty Lists**

**Department of State Reports**

**Multi-National Force Briefings**

**By Name Unit Rosters**

**POW Interrogation Records**

**Iraqi Security Forces**

**Iraq Army Training**

**Daily Reports**

**PAO New Releases**

**Combat Camera Photographs**





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## DATA COLLECTED (CONT)

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**Monthly Operational Summaries**  
**PSYOP files**  
**Coalition operational files**

**Insurgent (Red Cell) Briefs**  
**Equipment requisition files**  
**Facilities information**

**Operation Power Point Briefings**  
**Background on Iraqi Personalities and Culture**  
**Documents for Saddam Hussein Trial**  
**Maps and Miscellaneous Artifacts (Ballots, PSYOP Leaflets, Menus, Patches, Flags, etc.)**





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# **YOU CAN'T HAVE IT NOW.....WHY?**

USB Port Issue

Download of data not yet complete

Unreadable electrons (unsupported software formats)

Unlabeled or ambiguously labeled hard drives

Folders buried within folders within folders

Data received without organization useful for researchers





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## QUESTIONS?

Frank.Shirer@us.army.mil

